

We have unfortunately only a single specimen of this species in the British Museum, which was sent from the Ohio by Mr. Anthony. This example only differs from the specimens found by Mr. Rowse in the front side being rather attenuated and produced, while in the British specimens this part of the shell is regularly rounded; but I have no means of ascertaining whether this is the usual state of the species, or only an accidental variation in the individual we possess, and one can scarcely believe, without better proof, that the same species should be found in Europe and the United States; therefore I shall for the present consider it as distinct.

The species is intermediate in size and form between *Sphærium rivicola* and *S. corneum*.

Sphærium pallidum.

Shell oblong, pale whitish yellow on the circumference, slightly concentrically striated, rounded before, rounded and rather truncated behind; sides rather swollen, evenly convex; the cardinal edge rather produced, nearly straight, and slightly compressed on each side the umbo; the umbo regularly convex, rather in front of the middle of the shell, sometimes slightly crumpled.



S. pallidum.

The foot very large; the siphons elongate, united nearly to the tip; the apices conical, the upper the smallest.

The young are compressed, rather rounded, gradually becoming more gibbous and elongated as they increase in size.

Inhabits Grand Junction Canal near Kensal Green.

The largest specimens are $\frac{1}{2}\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch long, $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{4}$ high, and $\frac{7}{24}$ thick. The average-sized specimens are $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, $\frac{1}{4}$ thick, and $\frac{9}{24}$ high.

The living specimens emitted when in confinement several young shells about 1 line long.

May 20, 1856.

XLIII.—*Descriptions of eight new species of Birds from South America.* By PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., F.Z.S. &c.

1. SYNALLAXIS CASTANEA.

S. brunnescenti-castanea unicolor: plaga magna gutturali nigra: loris obscuris: mento fulvescenti-albido: remigibus intus nigricantibus: cauda unicolore castanea longissima; reetricibus tantum octo et harum una utrinque extima brevissima.

Long. tota 5.5; alæ 2.3; caudæ 4.1 poll. Angl.

Hab. in vic. urbis Caraccas in Venezuela.—*Mus.* Brit., Paris.

There are several specimens of this fine *Synallaxis* in the Bri-

tish Museum, where it first attracted my notice. The beautiful series of birds recently transmitted by M. Levraud, the French Consul at Caraccas, to the Museum of the Jardin des Plantes at Paris (which I have lately had the opportunity of inspecting through the courtesy of the Directors of that establishment), contains a single example of the same bird, which has enabled me to assure myself of its locality.

This is one of the species of this form that shows the greatest 'rapprochement' towards *Sylviorthorhynchus*, the tail being composed of eight rectrices only, and the outer pair of these being abnormally small.

DIGLOSSOPIS, gen. nov.

Diglossopsis, genus novum *Diglossæ* proximum, et rostro simili sed productiore; mandibulæ superioris apice non uncinata sed supra mandibulam inferiorem fortiter incurva: hac autem rectissima, acutissima, nec seorsum curvata: alis modicis, remigibus tertia et quarta longissimis, secunda quintam æquante et primam paulo superante: cauda modica quadrata: pedibus *Diglossæ* assimilibus.

2. DIGLOSSOPIS CÆRULESCENS.

D. cærulescenti-cinerea fere unicolor, subtus in ventre dilutior: alis caudaque intus nigricantibus: loris et rostri ambitu obscuris: rostro nigro: pedibus brunneis.

Long. tota 6·0; alæ 2·9; caudæ 2·3 poll. Angl.

Hab. in vic. urbis *Caraccas* in Venezuela.

Mus. Bremensi et Parisiensi.

Dr. Hartlaub first pointed out this curious bird to me when I was on a visit to Bremen in 1854 and inspecting the well-ordered collection of birds in the museum of that city. The single specimen there is without indication of locality, and I was consequently unwilling to describe it. I never met with this species again until quite lately among the before-mentioned series of birds sent to Paris by M. Levraud from Caraccas.

I think there is no doubt that it ought to form the type of a new genus of *Diglossinæ*.

3. DIGLOSSA INDIGOTICA.

Diglossa indigotica, J. & E. Verreaux, MS.

D. indigotico-cærulea unicolor: loris nigris: alis caudaque nigris cærulescenti-viridi limbatis: rostro et pedibus nigris.

Long. tota 4·3; alæ 2·2; caudæ 1·4 poll. Angl.

Hab. in rep. Equatoriana.

MM. J. & E. Verreaux have kindly supplied me with a specimen of this beautiful *Diglossa* as yet undescribed, and for

which I retain their MS. name. It must be placed next to *D. personata*, a common species in Bogota collections, from which it may be distinguished by its smaller size, want of the black face, and the dark velvety purple hue of the blue colouring.

4. ANABATES INFUSCATUS.

A. supra fumoso-brunneus, capitis pennis medialiter vix pallidioribus : tectricibus caudæ superioribus et cauda tota intense ferrugineis : subtus sordide albus ; crisso autem rufescente, abdomine cinerascete, paululum tincto : tectricibus alarum inferioribus ochraceiscenti-rufis : rostro nigricanti-brunneo ; mandibula inferiore flavescente : pedibus brunneis.

Long. tota 7·5 ; alæ 3·6 ; caudæ 3·0 poll. Angl.

Hab. in Peruvia Orientali.

Obs. Affinis *Anabata leucophthalmo*, sed supra et subtus multo minus rufescens.

5. ANABATES LINEATICEPS.

A. supra fumigato-brunneus, capite nigricantiore : capitis, interscapulii et tectricum alarum pennarum scapis pallide ochraceiscenti-albis, lineas longitudinales formantibus : alis caudaque clare ferrugineo-rufis : primariorum parte mediali nigra, interna cum tectricibus subalaribus pallide cinnamomea : corpore subtus albo, cinnamomeo tincto : cervice antica striis quibusdam parvulis nigris irregulariter perfusa : rostro recto, mandibulæ superioris apice uncinata, colore flavido, culmine nigro : pedibus fuscis.

Long. tota 7·5 ; alæ 3·6 ; caudæ 3·0 poll. Angl.

Hab. in Peruv. Orientali.

These two *Anabata* are from a large collection received by MM. Verreaux of Paris from the Upper branches of the Peruvian Amazon in 1854.

6. MYIADESTES VENEZUELENSIS.

M. supra chocolatio-brunnea : capite antico et laterali cinerascetioribus : loris nigris : subtus saturate schistacea, abdomine medio albescentiore, hypochondriis brunnescentibus : remigum nigricantium basi interiore alba, exteriori fulvescente, vittam pallidam trans alarem formante ; harum quoque marginibus exterioribus versus apices pallide fulvis : cauda nigricante : rectricis unæ utrinque extimæ dimidio apicali interno albo : secunda quoque et tertia (sed hac multo minus) albo terminatis : rostri brunnei basi flava : pedibus pallidis.

Long. tota 6·7 ; alæ 3·4 ; caudæ 3·0 poll. Angl.

Hab. in vic. urbis Caraccas in Venezuela.—*Mus.* Parisiensis.

There is an example of this apparently undescribed *Myiadestes* in the collection lately sent to Paris by M. Levraud from Caraccas. It is of the same form as *M. obscurus* (Lafr.) from Guatimala and S. Mexico.

The only birds likely to belong to this form hitherto known as inhabitants of South America are *Ptilogonys griseiventer* and *P. leucotis* described in Tschudi's 'Fauna Peruana.'

I may mention that the latter bird is quite distinct specifically from *Hypothymis leucogonys*, Licht. (*Cichlopsis leucogonys*, Cab.), with which it has been united by Prince Bonaparte in his 'Conspetus,' though they may perhaps be referable to the same genus.

7. PIPREOLA MELANOLĒMA.

P. clare viridis: capite toto cum gula et pectore saturatissime nigro-*viridibus*, vix a nigro distinguendis: tænia angusta hanc colorem undique nisi in nucha marginante cum ventre medio crissoque flavis, ventre laterali flavo variegato: alis caudaque nigris viridi extus limbatis; tectricibus alarum majoribus flavo, secundariis autem dorso proximis et rectricibus albo terminatis: tectricibus subalaribus flavescenti-albidis: rostro pedibusque rubris.

♀ *viridis*, sicut mas, sed non cucullata, abdomine flavo variegato, medialiter pure flavo: alis caudaque sicut in mari coloratis.

Long. tota 7·8; alæ 3·6; caudæ 3·1 poll. Angl.

Hab. in Venezuela, Caraccas.

Mus. Heineano, Parisiensi, P. L. S. &c.

This is the Venezuelan representative of *P. riefferi*, so common in Bogota collections, from which it may be distinguished by its larger size, much darker head and throat, and the brighter edging of the wing-coverts.

I am now acquainted with seven species strictly referable to this beautiful form of *Cotinginæ*: viz. (1) *viridis* (d'Orb.)—a female of a species of which I have not yet seen the male—ex Bolivia; (2) *riefferi* ex Bogota; (3) *melanolēma*; (4) *aureipectus* ex Bogota et Venezuela; (5) *elegans* (Tschudi) ex Peruv.—usually united to *aureipectus*, but quite distinct; (6) *formosa* ex Venezuela; (7) *sclateri* ex rep. Equatoriana.

8. CHIROXIPHIA REGINA.

Pipra regina, Natt. in Mus. Vindob.

C. nigra, dorso cæruleo: crista in medio pileo flava.

Hab. Borba, Rio Madeira in imp. Brasil.

Obs. Similis *C. pareolæ* sed crista flava nec rubra.

There are three examples of this Manakin in the Imperial

Museum at Vienna, brought by the celebrated traveller and naturalist Natterer from the vicinity of Borba on the Rio Madeira, and numbered 833 of his collection. The bird closely resembles the well-known *C. pareola*, but has the crest yellow. Natterer's notes upon this species are: "From the underwood, rather near the ground; solitary."

I believe it has never yet been published.

XLIV.—On *Scissurella* and *Schismope*.

By J. GWYN JEFFREYS, Esq., F.R.S.

To the Editors of the *Annals of Natural History*.

GENTLEMEN,

ALTHOUGH I knew that naturalists were, like poets, a "genus irritabile," I confess that I was not quite prepared for Mr. Woodward's attack on me in your last Number.

He says that, because he *thinks* he has discovered an error, and had protested in vain against it, he was bound to publish. I beg leave to dispute the conclusion, if not the whole of the premises.

When I showed Mr. Woodward specimens of the *Scissurella striatula* of Philippi (which I had much pleasure in presenting him with), he called my attention to the conversion of the fissure into a foramen when the shell became adult. We then referred to Sowerby and Philippi; and I went to the Library of the British Museum and consulted D'Orbigny's Memoir. Mr. Woodward having informed me that he did not intend to publish on the subject, I did so, and mentioned in the March number of the 'Annals' that he had pointed out to me the peculiarity in question, and at the same time I cited D'Orbigny's Memoir.

About a fortnight afterwards, in consequence of Mr. Clark having expressed his opinion that *Scissurella* was synonymous or identical with *Trochus*, I made the further communication which appeared in the 'Annals' for last month; and I then went fully into the matter, being backed by the undeniable authority of Dr. Gray. This, Mr. Woodward calls seeking to justify my position by the "testimony of persons unacquainted with the facts of the case"!

Mr. Woodward admitted to me that he had never previously seen any species of *Scissurella* except *S. crispata*; and as he does not state that he has since seen any other, his *belief* that certain species which were described and figured by D'Orbigny, Sowerby and Philippi (eight in number) are varieties of one and the same species, I leave to the judgment of your readers.